



## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

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**FOR RELEASE:**

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### **METRO HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION HIRES CAROLINE BLACKWELL AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Caroline G. Blackwell will serve as the new Executive Director for The Metro Human



Relations Commission. For the last seventeen years, Ms. Blackwell has worked at the University School of Nashville, most recently as the Director of Multicultural Affairs. In that position, she researched and developed programs for faculty and students on various diversity topics, including managing socioeconomic and class diversity, sexual orientation and gender development, bias in classrooms and organizational settings, intercultural communication, and conflict management. Ms. Blackwell also is the lead facilitator for the National Association of Independent Schools Summer Diversity Institute, and consults regionally and nationally on diversity and inclusion.

Ms. Blackwell received a bachelor of science degree from the University of Maryland and a master of social work from Boston University. She is certified by the National Multicultural Institute and is a Rule 31 Listed Civil Mediator. Ms. Blackwell is a board member of Nashville CABLE, Goodwill of Middle Tennessee, and Nonviolent Communication Nashville.

With her twenty years of experience in cross-cultural communications, community relations, education, and conflict management, Ms. Blackwell will ably lead the Commission and the entire Nashville community in addressing human relations issues and opportunities in our increasingly diverse city. Commissioner Hal Cato, Chair of the Human Relations Commission Executive Director Search Committee noted "The Commission conducted a nationwide search and we found the most qualified candidate

here in our own community. Ms. Blackwell knows Nashville and its issues and the Commission is looking forward to working with her.”

Ms. Blackwell is committed to fulfilling the mission of the MHRC through community-wide education and broad-based initiatives to eliminate discrimination in employment, housing, financial services and public accommodations as well as to assist efforts to promote respect for diversity, encourage improved race relations and address issues of community concern. “The Commission’s strategic plan is results-oriented” said Patricia Totty, Chair of the Human Relations Commission, “Ms. Blackwell’s personal commitment and professional accomplishments working in the field for over two decades will lead to the positive results we are committed to on behalf of the citizens of Davidson County.”

About the Metro Human Relations Commission: The Metro Human Relations Commission was reestablished in 1994 with its objective to make Nashville noteworthy in the area of human relations. Today, with seventeen Commissioners, appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council, and employing a professional staff of three, the Commission is focused on its core mission to protect and promote the personal dignity of all people by protecting and promoting their safety, health, security, peace and general welfare. For more information about the Metro Human Relations Commission, visit our website [www.nashville.gov/humanrelations](http://www.nashville.gov/humanrelations)

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